



Presentation details



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### Submission Information

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### Presentation details

Abstract title From protective space to embedded place; Developing urban agriculture in Almere Oosterwold

Abstract text Sustainable urban food provisioning is an issue of growing concern in spatial planning worldwide. Food production in the city and in the peri-urban belt, i.e. urban agriculture, is one aspect of a multi-faceted challenge. The bulk of the research conducted in this domain consists of pure and simple case studies, lacking a sophisticated theoretical perspective. This paper builds on a novel theoretical perspective for planning i.e. a multi-level perspective on transition theory. Zooming in on strategic niche management in transition theory a new conception of spatial planning appears on the horizon.

Almere-Oosterwold is a projected extension of the new town Almere in the Netherlands. In the Oosterwold land use plan 50% of the territory is allocated for urban and peri-urban agriculture and (only) 30% for housing. The city government opts for new roads in planning and design i.e. organic growth. This approach contradicts conventional practice in Dutch spatial planning which focuses on pre-established land use zoning, detailed physical design and strict regulations.

The new approach builds on the concept of 'strategic niche management'. Strategic niche management literature offers clues for novel process architecture in spatial planning. In the Almere case four episodes are discerned i.e. 1. visioning, 2. creating a protected space, 3. social learning and networking, 4. embedment in everyday practices. In the first and second episode the researchers have conceived and developed systematically twelve ideal-types of urban agriculture. These ideal-types are connected to best practices selected from all over the Netherlands. In Oosterwold a protected space is created for experiments with urban and peri-urban agriculture, in such a way that a management unit established by the municipality and the land-owners, can learn and apply lessons 'on the run', without compromising basic regulations. Strategic niche management generates an iterative development process leaving ample space for bottom up initiatives.

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#### Tracks 09 Energy, Food and Urban Metabolism

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#### Speaker details

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